connivance with a section of departmental employees all over the country, causing considerable loss of revenue;

(b) whether it is also a fact that complaints in many such cases have been lodged against the guilty including the departmental employees during the last three years; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, city-wise and actions taken so far against the guilty and the steps taken by Government to prevent such pilferage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Details of pilferage citywise and action taken are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Surprise inspections by vigilance teams of the Deptt. have been stepped up Dedicated cells of CBI are being set up at metro-politan cities shortly to deal effectively with this malpractice in co-ordination with departmental officials. Action is being taken to amend the Indian Telegraph Act to take deterrent action against persons involved in the diversion of telephones, the persons who derive advantage of the diversion as well as these who abet in diversion.

Extra departmental post offices in Bihar

7468. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many extra departmental post offices are functioning in Bihar at present, with districtwise details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to upgrade these post offices to departmental post offices in the near future to create scope for increase in revenue; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINMISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) There are 10,306 Extra Departmental Post Offices in Bihar Circle as on 31-3-94. District wise details are at annexer as Statement. (See below).

(b) and (c) Post Offices are upgraded on the basis of work load and financial viability. As per existing norms the work load should be atleast five hours and the post office should be financially viable, to justify upgradation into a departmental office. Extra-departmen offices which fulfil the norms are upgraded subject to availability of resources.

Statement

No. of EDPOs District-wise as on 31-3-94 *in Bihar Circle*

Sl. No.	Name of district	EDS Os	EDBOs	Total
1.	Saran	04	320	324
2.	Vaishali	04	214	218
3.	Bhojpur	03	253	256
4.	Buxar	01	148	149
5.	Gaya	..	337	337
6.	Nawada	04	175	179
7.	Jahanabad	03	147	150

Sl. No.	Name of district	EDSos	EDBos	Total
8.	Nalanda	05	293	298
9.	Bhagalpur	14	216	230
10.	Banka	12	162	174
11.	Patna	10	290	300
12.	Begusarai	04	194	198
13.	Khagaria	01	125	126
14.	Darbhanga	02	298	300
15.	East Champaran	01	371	372
16.	West Champaran	02	254	256
17.	Madhubani	01	386	387
18.	Munger	03	236	239
19.	Jamui	..	132	132
20.	Muzaffarpur	16	338	354
21.	Araria	..	146	146
22.	Katihar	..	161	161
23.	Kishanganj	..	81	81
24.	Purnea	..	161	161
25.	Saharsa	..	152	152
26.	Madhepura	..	191	191
27.	Supaul	..	156	156
28.	Siwan	..	284	284
29.	Gopalganj	..	180	180
30.	Sitamarhi	01	229	300
31.	Samastipur	05	343	348
32.	Dumka	01	249	250
33.	B. Deoghar	01	136	137
34.	Godda	..	138	138
35.	Sahebganj	..	141	141
36.	Aurangabad	03	241	244
37.	Palamu	01	233	234
38.	Garhwa	..	78	78
39.	Hazaribagh	07	202	209
40.	Chatra	02	75	77
41.	Giridih	..	166	166
42.	East Singhbhum	01	153	154
43.	West Singhbhum	01	168	169

Sl. No.	Name of district	EDS OS	BDBOS	Total
44.	Ranchi	06	294	300
45.	Gumla	..	204	204
46.	Lohardaga	03	78	81
47.	Dhanbad	05	123	128
48.	Bokaro	..	110	110
49.	Rohtas	..	249	249
50.	Bhabhua	..	96	96
	TOTAL :	127	10,179	10,306

Post Office Buildings and Quarters for Postal Employees in Bihar

7469. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many post office buildings and staff quarters for postal employees were constructed in Bihar during the last three years, with year-wise and district-wise details thereof;

(b) how many post office buildings and staff quarters are proposed to be constructed in the State during the Eighth Five Year Plan period;

(c) whether Government proposed to provide new post office biuldings in Begusarai district of the State in the near future; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The details are given in the Statement. (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Construction of new post office biuldings and staff quarters will depend on availability of land and funds allocated for this purpose, as annual building plans are finalised as per allocation of funds. The annual building plan for the year 1994-95 is yet to be finalised.

Statement

The details of post office buildings and staff quarters constructed during the last three years, districtwise are given below :—

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Post office Buildings	1. Narpatgn PO Purnea.	1. Dhanbad HPO Dhanbad	1. Ghamaria Sharsa
	2. Kidwaipuri Patna	2. Silli PO Ranchi	2. Darbhanga HPO Darbhanga
	3. Barbigha, Munger		3. Barhi Hazaribagh
			4. Ramgarh HPO Hazaribagh
Staff Quarters	13 Patna	10 Patna	14 Gaya 1 Muzaffarpur.